

easements; and (3) the encumbered disposal alternative, under which the Army would transfer the property with various environmental restrictions and easements, limiting the future use of the property. Additionally, this FEIS analyzes the potential environmental and socioeconomic consequences of three community reuse alternative; (1) Low intensity reuse alternative; (2) low-medium intensity reuse alternative; and (3) medium intensity reuse alternative.

The FEIS concludes the no action alternative is not reasonable since the closure of MOTBY is mandated by BRAC law, and the Army has no requirement to retain the property. The FEIS also concludes that the unencumbered disposal alternative is not feasible given environmental conditions and legal requirements.

The Army's preferred alternative course of action is the encumbered disposal of excess property. Possible encumbrances include: covenants and restrictions pertaining to asbestos-containing material; lead-based paint; floodplains; future remedial activities after transfer, wetlands and easements; and rights-of-way.

Community reuse of the MOTBY property is analyzed in the FEIS as a secondary action resulting from closure and disposal by the Army. While the Army does not control the community's reuse of the property, under NEPA, the Army is required to analyze the reasonably foreseeable impacts of its disposal action. The local community has established the Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority (BLRA) to develop and implemented a reuse plan for the installation. Approval and implementation of the reuse plan are within the discretion of the BLRA.

Comments on the FEIS, received during the public comment period, will be used in preparing the Army's Record of Decision.

Copies of the FEIS have been forwarded to the EPA, other federal, state, and local agencies; public officials; and organizations and individuals who previously provided substantive comments in the EIS scoping process. Copies of the FEIS are available for review at the following libraries. The Bayonne Free Public Library, 697 Avenue C, Bayonne, NJ 07002-2806; the Jersey City Public Library, 472 Jersey Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07302; and the Newark Public Library, 5 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102.

Dated: December 14, 1999.

Raymond J. Fatz,

*Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army,
(Environment, Safety and Occupational
Health) OASA (I&E).*

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Reissuance of MTMC Freight Traffic Rules Publication (MFTRP) No. 1A as MFTRP No. 1B

AGENCY: Military Traffic Management Command, DOD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Military Traffic Management Command (MTMC), as the Department of Defense (DOD) Traffic Manager for surface and surface intermodal traffic management services, proposes canceling MFTRP No. 1A in its entirety and reissuing it as MFTRP No. 1B.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before February 22, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be sent as follows: by fax: 703-681-9871 attn: Jerome Colton; by e-mail: coltonj@mtmc.army.mil.; by mail or courier to: Headquarters, Military Traffic Management Command, ATTN: MTOP-JF (Jerome Colton), Room 606, 5611 Columbia Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-5050.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information contact Mr. Jerome Colton at 703-681-1417.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed effective date for the change would be April 1, 2000.

The proposed text of MFTRP No. 1B is available on the MTMC web site at www.mtmc.army.mil by clicking in succession on: (1) Transportation Services, (2) Freight Logistics, (3) Freight Traffic Rules Publications and then clicking on the appropriate button indicating the 1B. Individuals without access to the Internet may obtain a copy of the proposed text by sending a request (and including their full postal mailing address) to either the fax number or the e-mail or U.S. mailing addresses indicated earlier in this announcement under **ADDRESSES**. Requests for the proposed text will not be received telephonically.

Significant changes prompting the reissuance of the publication include but are not limited to:

1. Changes to Descriptors (e.g., use of 3-character ANSI accessorial codes vice 2-character DOD codes).

2. Substantive changes to some high-profile rules (e.g. Exclusive Use, Alteration).

3. Harmonization of some rules with MTMC Guaranteed Traffic Rules Publication (MGTRP No. 50) as a first step to merging all rules publications.

4. Standardizing inconsistencies in style, wording, and format as a result of piecemeal changes over the years, and extensive use of tables to display information vice older formats using tabs.

5. Deletion of items duplicated in other source documents, such as the Tender Instructions (MT Form 364), & Carrier Qualifications in 32 CFR.

6. Inclusion of new items (e.g. Electronic Commerce, PowerTrack). Informal feedback has been sought from industry on numerous occasions; meetings were held with various motor carrier groups (e.g. NDTA, ATA, MCC, NMFTA) early in the reissuance process (August 1998) and more recently (June, July, & October 1999). Some of this informal feedback has been incorporated into the proposed text. Formal comments from the public are now invited.

Regulatory Flexibility Act: This change is not considered rule making within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601-612.

Paperwork Reduction Act: The Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3051 *et seq.*, does not apply because no information collection requirement or recordskeeping responsibilities are imposed on offerors, contractors, or members of the public.

Walter Scullion,

Chief, Freight Services Division (Acting), Joint Traffic Management Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 00-05: Natural and Accelerated Bioremediation Research Program

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy

ACTION: Notice inviting research grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Biological and Environmental Research (OBER) of the Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), hereby announces its interest in receiving applications for research grants in the Natural and Accelerated Bioremediation Research (NABIR) Program. Applications should describe research projects in one of the following categories: